

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (previously presented) A vibration damper comprising:
 - a cylinder containing a damping medium;
 - a piston rod extending from said cylinder;
 - a piston connected to said piston rod, said piston having a piston rod side and a side away from said piston rod, said piston separating said cylinder into a working space on said piston rod side and a working space on said side away from said piston rod;
 - a bypass connecting said working spaces when said piston is in a limited range of positions;
 - at least one first through-channel for flow in a first direction between said working spaces through said piston, each said first through-channel having an outlet side;
 - a first valve disk covering said outlet side and having a first pressure-actuated surface upon which pressure can act to lift said first valve disk from a closed position to an open position to permit flow in said first direction, and a second pressure actuated surface which is separated from said first pressure-actuated surface when said first valve disk is in said closed position and can be acted on by damping medium flowing in said first direction via said bypass so that the pressure on said first and second pressure actuated surfaces of said first valve disk is additive;
 - and
 - a sealing sleeve received in said cylinder and extending from said first valve disk into the working space on said piston rod side.

2. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 1, wherein an inner surface of said cylinder has a groove defining said bypass.

3. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 2, wherein said groove comprises an inlet area.

4. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 2, wherein said groove comprises an outlet area.

5. (cancelled)

6. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 1, wherein said first valve disk and said sealing sleeve are made as a single unit.

7. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 1, wherein said first valve disk and said sealing sleeve are made as separate components.

8. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 7, further comprising a valve spring pretensioning said sealing sleeve against said first valve disk.

9. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 8, wherein said spring has a spring characteristic which is selected so that the sealing sleeve can rise from said first valve disk when the piston reaches a predetermined position.

10. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 1, further comprising a seal between said sealing sleeve and said cylinder.

11. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 10, wherein said bypass has a length and said piston has a sealing ring separated from said seal by a distance which is greater than or equal to the length of the bypass.

12. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 1, further comprising a pair of concentrically arranged valve seating surfaces for seating said first valve disk, said valve seating surfaces defining said first pressure actuated surface therebetween.

13. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 1, wherein said second pressure-actuated surface lies radially outside of said first pressure-actuated surface.

14. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 1, further comprising a nonreturn valve which blocks flow of pressure medium in said first direction toward said second pressure actuated surface.

15. (previously presented) The vibration damper of claim 1, further comprising:
at least one second through-channel for flow in a second direction through the piston,
each said second through-channel having an outlet side
a second valve disk covering said outlet side of said second through-channel and having a
third pressure-actuated surface which opposes said first pressure-actuated surface and upon

which pressure can act to lift the second valve disk from a closed position to an open position to permit flow in said second direction, and a fourth pressure actuated surface which is separated from said third pressure-actuated surface when said second valve disk is in said closed position and can be acted on by damping medium flowing in said second direction via the bypass so that the pressure on said first and second pressure actuated surfaces of said second valve disk is additive.

16. (currently amended) A vibration damper comprising:

a cylinder containing a damping medium;

a piston rod extending from said cylinder;

a piston connected to said piston rod, said piston having a piston rod side and a side away from said piston rod, said piston separating said cylinder into a working space on said piston rod side and a working space on said side away from said piston rod;

a bypass connecting said working spaces when said piston is in a limited range of positions;

at least one first through-channel for flow in a first direction between said working spaces through said piston, each said first through-channel having an outlet side;

a first valve disk covering said outlet side and having a first pressure-actuated surface upon which pressure can act to lift said first valve disk from a closed position to an open position to permit flow in said first direction, and a second pressure actuated surface which is separated from said first pressure-actuated surface when said first valve disk is in said closed position and can be acted on by damping medium flowing in said first direction via said bypass so that the pressure on said first and second pressure actuated surfaces of said first valve disk is additive; and

a pair of concentrically arranged valve seating surfaces for seating aid first valve disk, said valve seating surfaces defining said first pressure actuated surface therebetween.

17. (currently amended) The vibration damper of claim 16, wherein an inner surface of said cylinder has a groove-defining said bypass.

18. (currently amended) The vibration damper of claim 16, wherein said second pressure-actuated surface lies radially outside of said first pressure-actuated surface.

19. (currently amended) The vibration damper of claim 16, further comprising a nonreturn valve which blocks flow of pressure medium in said first direction toward said second pressure actuated surface.

20. (currently amended) The vibration damper of claim 16, further comprising:
at least one second through-channel for flow in a second direction through the piston, each said second through-channel having an outlet side; and

a second valve disk covering said outlet side of said second through-channel and having a third pressure-actuated surface which opposes said first pressure-actuated surface and upon which pressure can act to lift the second valve disk from a closed position to an open position to permit flow in said second direction, and a fourth pressure actuated surface which is separated from said third pressure-actuated surface when said second valve disk is in said closed position and can be acted on by damping medium flowing in said second direction via the bypass so that the pressure on aid first and second pressure actuated surfaces of said second valve disk is additive.

21. (currently amended) A vibration damper comprising:

- a cylinder containing a damping medium;
- a piston rod extending from said cylinder;
- a piston connected to said piston rod, said piston having a piston rod side and a side away from said piston rod, said piston separating said cylinder into a working space on said piston rod side and a working space on said side away from said piston rod;
- a bypass connecting said working spaces when said piston is in a limited range of positions;
- at least one first through-channel for flow in a first direction between said working spaces through said piston, each said first through-channel having an outlet side;
- a first valve disk covering said outlet side and having a first pressure-actuated surface upon which pressure can act to lift said first valve disk from a closed position to an open position to permit flow in said first direction, and a second pressure actuated surface which is separated from said first pressure-actuated surface when said first valve disk is in said closed position and can be acted on by damping medium flowing in said first direction via said bypass so that the pressure on said first and second pressure actuated surfaces of said first valve disk is additive; and
- a nonreturn valve which blocks flow of pressure medium in said first direction toward said second pressure actuated surface.

22. (currently amended) The vibration damper of claim 21, wherein an inner surface of said cylinder has a groove defining said bypass.

23. (currently amended) The vibration damper of claim 21, wherein said second pressure-actuated surface lies radially outside of said first pressure-actuated surface.

24. (currently amended) A vibration damper comprising:

- a cylinder containing a damping medium;
- a piston rod extending from said cylinder;
- a piston connected to said piston rod, said piston having a piston rod side and a side away from said piston rod, said piston separating said cylinder into a working space on said piston rod side and a working space on said side away from said piston rod;
- a bypass connecting said working spaces when said piston is in a limited range of positions;
- at least one first through-channel for flow in a first direction between said working spaces through said piston, each said first through-channel having an outlet side;
- a first valve disk covering said outlet side and having a first pressure-actuated surface upon which pressure can act to lift said first valve disk from a closed position to an open position to permit flow in said first direction, and a second pressure actuated surface which is separated from said first pressure-actuated surface when said first valve disk is in said closed position and can be acted on by damping medium flowing in said first direction via said bypass so that the pressure on said first and second pressure actuated surfaces of said first valve disk is additive;
- at least one second through-channel for flow in a second direction through the piston, each said second through-channel having an outlet side; and
- a second valve disk covering said outlet side of said second through-channel and having a third pressure-actuated surface which opposes said first pressure-actuated surface and upon which pressure can act to lift the second valve disk from a closed position to an open position to permit

flow in said second direction, and a fourth pressure actuated surface which is separated from said third pressure-actuated surface when said second valve disk is in said closed position and can be acted on by damping medium flowing in said second direction via the bypass so that the pressure on said first and second pressure actuated surfaces of said second valve disk is additive.

25. (currently amended) The vibration damper of claim 24, wherein an inner surface of said cylinder has a groove defining said bypass.

26. (currently amended) The vibration damper of claim 24, wherein said second pressure-actuated surface lies radially outside of said first pressure-actuated surface.

27. (currently amended) The vibration damper of claim 24, further comprising a nonreturn valve which blocks flow of pressure medium in said first direction toward said second pressure actuated surface.